

REMARKS

THE §§112 REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 15 AND 16

Claims 15 and 16 are rejected as being indefinite. The nomenclature complained of has been addressed by canceling claim 16 and amending claim 15 to depend from claim 14.

THE §§102 REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 1-5, 9-13, AND 17-19

Claims 1-5, 9-13, and 17-19 have been canceled.

THE §§103 REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 1-5, 9-13, AND 17-19

Claims 1-5, 9-13, and 17-19 have been canceled.

THE §§103 REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 6, 7, 14, 15, AND 20

Claims 6, 7, and 20 have been canceled.

Claim 14 as now amended recites a mechanical drive system for an accessory gearbox of a gas turbine engine that includes, *inter alia*, a pair of lay shafts connected to an accessory gearbox, wherein a first lay shaft is disposed spaced apart from and parallel to a second lay shaft, and is connected to the second lay shaft by an intermediate shaft having and a pair of spur gears. None of the cited references disclose a mechanical drive system as is recited in amended claim 14, nor is the recited mechanical drive system obvious in view thereof.

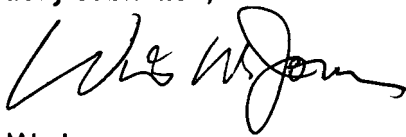
Claim 15 has been amended to depend from claim 14. Applicant directs the Examiner to the remarks above.

Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter recited in new claims 21-23 is not disclosed or suggested by the cited references. For example, none of the references cited disclose or suggest a mechanical drive system or a gas turbine engine that includes, *inter alia*, a pair of lay shafts connected to an accessory

gearbox, wherein a first lay shaft is disposed spaced apart from and parallel to a second lay shaft, and is connected to the second lay shaft by an intermediate shaft having and a pair of spur gears.

In view of the above-noted amendments to the claims and the arguments advanced in support of patentability, it is respectfully submitted that this application is presently in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is courteously requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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